

Wyoming Office of the Attorney General Division of Victim Services

Governor
Dave Freudenthal

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Cheyenne, WY. --- Governor Dave Freudenthal will be signing the proclamation declaring October Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) Thursday, October 5th at 3:00 pm at the Capitol Building. The purpose of DVAM is to increase the public's understanding about domestic violence in our society.


That is why the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault and the Wyoming Office of the Attorney General, Division of Victim Services have joined with the Governors Domestic Violence Elimination Council (DoVE) in sponsoring this year's DVAM campaign to encourage community leaders, co-workers, friends and loved ones to take a personal pledge to end domestic violence. This pledge demonstrates how each us can be part of the solution by pledging to never commit, condone or remain silent about violence.

The pledge also recognizes the need to respect oneself and to avoid self-destructive behavior, to recognize that words can also be violent and to pledge to avoid uncaring criticism and hateful words. The struggle to end domestic violence is far from over. Women are about six times more likely than men to experience violence committed by offenders with whom they had an intimate relationship. And, nearly 30 percent of all female homicide victims were known to have been killed by husbands, former husbands or boyfriends.

In recent years, women have experienced about 900,000 violent offenses at the hands of an intimate partner. In addition, women, ages 16 to 24, experience the highest per capita rates of intimate violence and nearly half of all female victims of intimate partner violence are in households with children under the age of 12.

These startling statistics clearly show the need for each of us to personally pledge to end domestic violence and engage others to do the same. The pledge will be available in Wyoming newspapers throughout the state and on the Wyoming Division of Victims Services website (vssi.stste.wy.us).

Wyoming FedEx Kinko's are committed to ending domestic violence and is doing their part by offering

free lamination of the pledge. Just bring in a signed pledge to any Wyoming Fed Ex Kinko s to laminate so your pledge can be displayed for years to come at your home or your office.

For more information on domestic violence contact the Wyoming Division of Victim Services at 1-888-996-8816 or the Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault at 1-800-990-3877.